

Fall 2013 Hikes and Happenings

DCR Boston Region Sites

- Stony Brook Reservation
- Brook Farm Historic Site
- Chestnut Hill Reservation
- Hammond Pond Reservation
- Hancock Woods Reservation
- Hemlock Gorge Reservation
- Neponset River Reservation
- Charles River Reservation
- Mystic River Reservation
- Beaver Brook Reservation



- Quincy Shores Reservation
- Dorchester Shores Reservation
- Alewife Brook Reservation
- Melnea Cass Recreation Complex
- Roxbury Heritage Park
- Southwest Corridor Park
- South Boston Beaches
- Dorothy Quincy Homestead
- Castle Island
- Camp Meigs

Sundays, September 15, 22, 29, October 6 & Columbus Day Weekend 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Fort Independence Tours at DCR Castle Island, South Boston

Castle Island and Fort Independence are located at the end of Day Boulevard in South Boston.

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/castle-island-pleasure-bay-m-street-and-carson-beach.html

Castle Island is the oldest continuously fortified site in British North America! The first fort on Castle Island was built in 1634 for the coastal defense of Boston. Fort Independence, a pentagonal five-bastioned fort built between 1834 and 1851, is Castle Island's 8th fort and was built with granite from the quarries in Rockport, MA. Free one-hour tours of Fort Independence are sponsored by the Castle Island Association in partnership with the DCR. Call the "CIA" at 617-268-8870 for updates.

Tuesday & Thursday mornings through November 26 7:00 am - 7:45 am

DCR Martini Shell Park Morning Boot Camp hosted by Hyde Park YMCA

Meet at Martini Shell Park at 1015 Truman Parkway in Hyde Park.

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/martini-shell-and-moynihan-recreation-area.html

Jump-start your day with heart-pounding exercise, repetitive drills and lots of running at the YMCA Free Fall Boot Camp. Wear workout clothes, proper running shoes and bring water. For ages 18 and older, and sign a liability waiver. For questions or weather updates, call the YMCA at 617-361-2300.

Saturday, September 21 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Family Day at the Waterworks Museum in Chestnut Hill

Meet at the Waterworks Museum at 2450 Beacon Street in Boston.

Call 617-277-0065 for details or visit www.waterworksmuseum.org

Join Museum staff for a free fun filled day of activities, games and all things water. Learn about the history of the Boston water system, practice your water pumping skills, and test your knowledge of global water issues in a game of Water Jeopardy. Please carpool or take the "T" as parking is limited.

Saturday, September 28 9:30 am - noon

Celebrate National Public Lands Day Trail Work with DCR and the Waltham Land Trust

Meet at the Lyman Estate at 185 Lyman Street in Waltham.

Call the Waltham Land Trust at (781) 893-3355 for more info or visit www.walthamlandtrust.org/

Hard workers and helping hands wanted! National Public Lands Day is the largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve public lands in the country. Join the DCR and the Waltham Land Trust to trim back vegetation and remove trash on the Massachusetts Central Rail Trail. Tools, work gloves and water provided. Bring water bottles and wear protective clothing/shoes, as poison ivy may be present.

Saturday, September 28 Free Festival 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Francis Cabot Lowell Festival at the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation

Meet at the Museum located at 154 Moody Street in Waltham.

Call 781-893-5410 for more information or visit www.crimi.org/

Celebrate two hundred years of Innovation and the birth of the Industrial Revolution with a free daytime festival and evening gala (Paid tickets required for Gala). In 1813, Francis Cabot Lowell established the Boston Manufacturing Company in Waltham and American manufacturing was born. Presented by the Lowell Institute, the free festival kicks off at 10 am and runs through 4 pm. Outside on Landry Park, visitors can enjoy weaving and spinning demonstrations, blacksmith demonstrations, children's games, crafts and storytelling and costumed re-enactors. Also visit the American Textile Museum or enjoy walking tours of the Francis Cabot Lowell Mill and the upper Charles River with the Museum and Waltham Land Trust. Visit: www.crimi.org/francis-cabot-lowell-bicentennial/

Saturday, October 5 10:00 am -11:00 am
First People Archaeology at DCR Caddy Park

Meet at Caddy Memorial Park on Quincy Shore Drive in Quincy.

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/quincy-shores-reservation.html>

October is Massachusetts Archaeology Month! Join Ellen Berkland, DCR Archaeologist, for a walk and talk to discover the rich Native history of Quincy shore and Black's creek area. In 1999, a collection of rare Native artifacts were unearthed at Caddy Park during construction of the playground. These artifacts reveal exciting new possibilities about the early life of the First People of the area. Join us at Caddy Park to learn more!

Saturday, October 5 10:00 am - 4:00 pm *Hours extended for Discover Quincy Day*
Dorothy Quincy Homestead Open House

The Dorothy Quincy Homestead is located at the intersection of Hancock Street and Butler Street in Quincy. For more info, visit http://www.nscda.org/ma/quincy_homestead.php

A National Historic Landmark, the Quincy Homestead is significant for its role in early American history, for its architecture, and for its Quincy family association. In addition to the architecture and furnishings, docents share stories of the Quincy family during the colonial era. The tours are FREE. Donations welcome. In addition, the grounds of the Quincy Homestead can be visited during daylight hours. The park, owned and maintained by the DCR, can be accessed through the driveway gate.

Saturday, October 19 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Autumn Amble at DCR Alewife Brook Reservation

Meet at the Alewife Brook parking lot at Cambridge Discovery Park at 100 Acorn Park Drive.

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/alewife-brook-reservation.html>

Calling all Leaf Peepers! Celebrate autumn on an easy 2 mile ramble through Alewife Brook Reservation. We'll enjoy a relaxing stroll and soak up the seasonal splendor. Enjoy a dazzling display of color along the Little River. For ages 8 and up.

Saturday, October 26 5:30 pm registration, 6:00 pm float
12th Annual Pumpkin Float at DCR Pope John Paul II Park

Meet at Pope John Paul II Park in Dorchester at the Hallet Street entrance.

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/pope-john-paul-ii-park-reservation.html

Join this Neponset family tradition! Bring your hollow carved pumpkin and join the floating parade of illuminated jack-o-lanterns down Davenport Creek to the Neponset River. Halloween costumes encouraged! Pumpkins can be no larger than 8 inches, or they won't float. Each jack-o-lantern will have a candle inserted on site and lit before being launched en masse in the water. Floats and candles will be provided. At the end of the event, pumpkins are collected for compost and used in Boston gardens. No registration necessary. Event check-in at Hallet Street entrance to the park. Presented by MA DCR and co-sponsored by Boston Natural Areas Network.

Saturday & Sunday, October 26 & 27 12:00 - 4:00 pm
31st Annual Children's Magical Halloween Castle at DCR Castle Island, South Boston

Castle Island and Fort Independence are located at the end of Day Boulevard in South Boston.

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-boston/castle-island-pleasure-bay-m-street-and-carson-beach.html

Join this annual family event at "the Castle" in South Boston. Fort Independence transports into a slightly spooky, but family friendly magical mystery castle. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Costumes encouraged! Sponsored by the Castle Island Association in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Visit www.bostonfortindependence.com or call 617-268-8870 for the latest info.

Saturday, November 2 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Hemlock Gorge Geology Walk

Hemlock Gorge is located on the Charles River between Newton Upper Falls and Needham.

For preregistration and directions, email: Maggi.Brown@state.ma.us

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-south/hemlock-gorge-reservation.html

Join the DCR and Les Tyralla, registered geologist, on a geology walk along bank paths of the Charles River. We will look at the sedimentary rock ("puddingstone") evidence of ancient, rugged mountains to the west of Boston discharging river-carried sediments into the Metrowest area, and recent glacial features. We'll look at the weir on the Charles River as well as the existing up-river aqueduct. Co-sponsored by DCR and the Friends of Hemlock Gorge. For ages 12 and up.

Things to know before you go

- **ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE!**
- Carry drinking water, wear sturdy footwear and dress in layers for maximum comfort
- If weather conditions are questionable, please call the reservation headquarters on the day of the program at 617-333-7404, extension 104 for updates.
- Reasonable accommodations available. For accessibility concerns, please email Maggi.Brown@state.ma.us



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